

September
19

Ecclesiasticus
12:8

True
who's
who

**A friend
cannot be
known
in prosperity,
and an enemy
cannot be
hidden
in adversity.**

Have you ever heard of a celebrity who had a great deal of money and lots of “friends” at the same time? His or her crew would seem to be so tightly-knit and so close to the celebrity that they were almost inseparable. But what usually happened when the icon’s money was gone? More times than not, the friends were

gone when the money
was gone.

Sometimes members of
the former entourage
not only showed how
unfriendly they had
become since the
financial loss, but they
proved to be enemies.
They rejected their past
benefactor. Some even
testified in court
against him or her.

This practical wisdom does not only apply to the wealthy. No one really knows who is a real friend when things are going well. A friend cannot be known in prosperity. Likewise, that old kick-em'-when-they're-down mentality will rear its head when times are hard. When things get rough, undercover

enemies will peel away
their masks and reveal
who they really are—
who is who.

Jesus, the Christ, had
12 inner-circle
disciples. They were
extremely connected to
him as they traveled
from place to place and
enjoyed the advantages
of watching miracles
first-hand and being

considered special
because of their
closeness to Christ.

However, when
maltreatment became
severe and adversity
was heightened, even
the most devoted fled.

Jesus is not a fair-
weather friend. He
showed himself to be a
friend to the whole

world when he gave himself freely for the sins of humankind. His friendship, his LOVE, was not hidden in even the harshest of conditions. He is the true Who's Who.

ONE *A* DAY

SCRIPTURE

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